



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AGENDA

DATE/TIME: **Monday, June 21, 2010
7:00 p.m.**

LOCATION: **Police Department Auditorium
870 Santa Barbara Drive**

Roll Call

1. Minutes of April 19, 2010 (*attachment*)
2. Smoking prohibitions update and discussion (*attachment*)

Guest speakers: Gary Sherwin, Newport Beach Conference and Visitors Bureau

Natalie Wolfs, MSW/MPA, Regional Program Director, American Lung Association

Abby Michelsen, President, Newport Harbor High School Heart Club

3. Re-appointment of subcommittee to review Banning Ranch Draft Environmental Impact Report
4. Coastal/Bay Water Quality Committee Representatives' Report
5. Economic Development Committee Representative's Report
6. Report from Staff on Current Projects
7. Public Comments
8. Future Agenda Items
9. Adjournment

NEXT MEETING DATE: July 19, 2010

*Attachments can be found on the City's website <http://www.newportbeachca.gov>. Once there, click on **Agendas and Minutes** then scroll to and click on **Environmental Quality Affairs**. If attachment is not on the web page, it is also available in the City of Newport Beach Planning Department, 3300 Newport Boulevard, Building C, 2nd Floor.



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES April 19, 2010

The Environmental Quality Affairs Committee held at the City of Newport Beach Police Department Auditorium, 870 Santa Barbara Drive, on **Monday, April 19, 2010.**

Members Present:

A	Nancy Gardner, Council Member	E	Barbara Thibault
X	Michael Henn, Council Member	X	Laura Curran
X	Arlene Greer, Chair	X	Vincent Lepore
X	Kimberly Jameson	X	Kevin Nolen
X	Kevin Kelly		
		A	Sandra Haskell
E	Michael Smith	X	Kathy Harrison
X	Ed Reno	X	Timothy Stoaks
A	Nick Roussos	X	Jay Myers
X	Joan Penfil	X	Charles McKenna
X	Bruce Asper	E	Debra Stevens
A	Merritt Van Sant	E	Michael Alti

Staff Representatives:

Guests:

X	James Campbell, Principal Planner	
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Chairperson Greer called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Minutes of February 22, 2010

Joan Penfil moved and Bruce Asper seconded to approve the minutes of February 22, 2010, as submitted.

Motion passed unanimously

2. Banning Ranch Presentations

- a. Banning Ranch Conservancy – Stephen Ray provided an overview of the Conservancy's efforts to secure funding for the acquisition of the Banning Ranch property to preserve the site as habitat and open space as a component of the overall River Park concept. He noted the Conservancy's goal to save the land from development due to the elimination of critical habitat and open space.

- b. Newport Banning Ranch – Mike Mohler provided an overview of the Newport Banning Ranch project that consists of the preservation of 65% of the 400 acre property as open space, environmental remediation/restoration efforts, consolidated oil production, 1,375 residential units, 75,000 square feet of commercial development and a 75 room hotel. He indicated that the comments from EQAC on the Notice of Preparation will be addressed in the forthcoming EIR being prepared by the City.

3. Coastal/Bay Water Quality Committee Representative's Report

Council Member Henn reported that the Committee received a presentation from the Utilities Department on the City's water wells in Fountain Valley. The Committee also heard a presentation on the Poseidon desalination plant proposed in Huntington Beach. Council Member Henn indicated that should the Poseidon facility come on-line in the future, its water production, combined with the City's wells, should make the City 100% independent from State water resources.

4. Economic Development Committee Representative's Report

Chairperson Greer reported that EDC had discussed sales and use taxes and the importance of transient occupancy taxes and the continuing efforts to secure hotel stays in the City for future Rose Bowl and BCS national championship football games. Transient occupancy tax revenue is on the rise and restaurants who participated in the recent Restaurant Weeks experienced increased sales. The next Restaurant Week will be in January of 2011. Chairperson Greer went on to report that the Marriott Hotel in Newport Center is planning an expansion of their ballroom spaces and that the City is examining its way-finding signs to improve their effectiveness. It was reported to the EDC that the blighted property on the north side of Coast Highway east of Dover Drive has been sold and the new owners are developing plans for redeveloping the site. Lastly, Chairperson Greer reminded the Committee 2010 Newport Beach Film Festival begins this week, April 22, 2010, and the Newport to Ensenada Race starts this Friday, April 23, 2010.

5. Report from Staff on Current Projects

Jim Campbell reported that the draft EIR for the Banning Ranch project is expected to be released for public review in mid-June.

6. Public Comments

None

7. Future Agenda Items

May – Smoking Ban update.

8. Adjournment

Chairperson Greer adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

April 2, 2010

Nancy,

I looked over the information from the person that contacted you about second –hand smoking.

I made the decision that we might be able to get additional restrictions in public parks and recreational facilities, but I do not think that we are ready to try to restrict smoking in private homes.

I wrote this in March and there was no meeting and I will be out of town in April. If you think that it is important to bring this issue back to EQAC, here is a copy that we might submit if the Committee is agreeable.

Soon after I wrote this, I read it has been decided to try to restrict smoking in all California parks. I'm not sure how far this movement will go, but feel that public sentiment is with us.

Thanks. Barbara

To Jim Campbell

To: City of Newport Beach Mayor and City Council
From: Environmental Quality Affairs Citizens Advisory Committee (EQAC)
Subject: Consideration of Prohibiting Smoking in Public Parks and Recreational Facilities

Background

The Newport Beach Municipal Code prohibits smoking in a number of places, including elevators, public areas of hospitals and health care facilities, hospital rooms with 2 or more people, theaters and auditoriums, public restrooms, indoor service lines and restaurants. Smoking is regulated in places of employment. Smoking is also prohibited on beaches, piers, public floats, public wharves, Inspiration Point and Lookout Point.

At its meeting on February 22, 2010, the Environmental Quality Affairs Committee (EQAC) revisited the possibility of the City adopting additional smoking prohibitions. It was decided to focus on trying to extend the prohibition of smoking to public parks and recreational facilities.

Summary of smoking prohibitions in surrounding cities

All of the following cities currently prohibit smoking in public parks and/or recreational facilities:

Burbank	Parks, city facilities, bikeways.
Calabasis (2006)	Ord.#2009-239 Public places
Fountain Valley (2007)	Ch12.08 #12.080.85 City parks and recreational facilities
Irvine (2000)	Sec.4-10-512 Public parks and recreational facilities
Laguna Beach (2004)	Ch.7.40 #7.40.105 Public parks
Laguna Hills	5.28.030 Public parks
Los Angeles	Griffith Park
Santa Monica (2004)	Art.4 Ch.4.44 Public parks
Seal Beach (2005)	Section 4, #7.55.010 Parks, dog parks

As outlined above, many cities, in recent years, have adopted ordinances prohibiting smoking in public parks and recreational facilities.

Reasons for Smoking Prohibitions

The primary reason for adopting smoking prohibitions is to protect people from the effects of second-hand smoke, which is responsible for increased risk of many diseases, including the following:

Secondhand smoke is responsible for the deaths of as many as 73,000 nonsmokers in the US each year.

Exposure to second hand smoke increases the risk of coronary heart disease by about 30% in nonsmokers.

Secondhand smoke causes as many as 300,000 cases of respiratory infections, such as pneumonia and bronchitis, in children under the age of 18 months, each year in the US. Childhood asthma is also increased.

A very recent study, completed at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and published 2/8/2010, raises concerns about third-hand smoke. This is the residue that clings to surfaces long after a cigarette is put out. The residue reacts with the common air pollutant nitrous oxide to produce carcinogens.

Although the risk of inhaling dust or the contact of skin with carpets or clothing is greater inside than it is outside, studies have shown that smoking outside is not much of an improvement. Nicotine residues stick to smokers and get spread everywhere. The biggest risk is to young children, through skin contact. Although further studies will follow, it seems prudent to keep surfaces and dust in public parks free of a potential carcinogenic.

Effects on Business

Adding a smoking prohibition to public parks and recreational facilities would seem to have little or no effect on businesses.

Enforcement

The Newport Beach Police do not enforce the City's current smoking prohibitions. They do respond to complaints of violation. Enforcement of an additional prohibition would probably be the same.

References

Destailats, Sleiman, Gundel, Singer, "Third-hand Smoke Hazards" Lawrence
Berkeley National Laboratory, January 6, 2010

"Model California Ordinance Regulating Smoking in Outdoor Areas"
June 2009, p4

Wood, S. "City Council Staff Report" March 10, 2009

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